



CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A press to straighten axles of model cars by hammer blows, comprising:

a male jaw having a generally rectangular shape, a mating surface, a centered half channel upon the lateral axis of said mating surface, the diameter of said half channel being less than one tenth the thickness of said male jaw, and one or more dowels extending perpendicular to said mating surface and regularly spaced along a diagonal line of said mating surface proximate to said half channel; and,

a female jaw having a generally rectangular shape, a mating surface that abuts on a common plane with said male jaw, a centered half channel upon the lateral axis of said mating surface, the diameter of said half channel being less than one tenth the thickness of said female jaw, and one or more holes extending perpendicular and into said mating surface and regularly spaced along a diagonal line of said mating surface proximate to said half channel whereby, aligning said male jaw together with said female jaw, said dowels fit snugly within said holes and said half channels cooperate to confine an axle.

2. (currently amended) The press of claim 1 wherein said male jaw has two of said dowels with one of said dowels on each side of said half channel, and said dowels have a generally cylindrical shape and a rounded end opposite said mating surface, and said female jaw has two of said holes with one of said holes on each side of said half channel, and said holes have a generally cylindrical shape matching said dowels.

3-5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) The press of ~~claim 4~~ claim 2 wherein said holes extend through the thickness of said female jaw.

7-8. (cancelled)

9. (original) The press of claim 1 wherein said male jaw, said female jaw, and said dowels withstand repeated hammer blows.

10. (currently amended) A press to straighten axles of model cars by hammer blows, comprising:

two jaws, each jaw having a generally rectangular shape, a longitudinal axis and a lateral axis perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, a mating surface, a centered half channel upon the lateral axis of said mating surface, the diameter of said half channel being less than one tenth the thickness of said jaw, one dowel extending perpendicular to said mating surface on one side of said half channel, one hole extending perpendicular and into said mating surface on the other side of said half channel from said dowel, whereby, said dowel of one said jaw aligns with said hole of the other said jaw, said two jaws close together, and said half channels cooperate to confine an axle.

11. (currently amended) The press of claim 10 wherein said dowel has a generally cylindrical shape with a rounded end opposite said mating surface and said hole has a generally cylindrical shape to receive said dowel, and said dowel and said hole of one said jaw have a symmetric arrangement along the longitudinal axis of said mating surface with said dowel and said hole equally spaced away from said half channel.

12-13. (cancelled)

14. (original) The press of claim 10 wherein said dowel and said hole of one said jaw are regularly spaced along a diagonal line of said mating surface with said dowel and said hole on opposite sides of said half channel.

15. (currently amended) A method of straightening an entire axle for a model car ~~typically~~ by a child and ~~a~~ his sponsor, the steps comprising:

- 1) cleaning said axle with sandpaper; ~~and,~~
- 2) marking the head of said axle to track rotation of said axle;
~~and,~~
- 3) assembling one jaw into the second jaw of a press; ~~and,~~
- 4) inserting one or more dowels from one jaw into the

corresponding one or more holes of the other jaw and closing the jaws together; ~~and,~~

5) placing said axle into the channel formed between said jaws of said press;

6) locating said press upon a solid surface and striking a jaw of said press repeatedly with a hammer; ~~and,~~

7) partially rotating said axle at least twice and repeating placement and hammering of the press; ~~and,~~

8) striking the ~~said~~ head of said axle to square said head to said axle; and,

9) removing said axle from said press and polishing said axle as desired.

16. (canceled)